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The Honorable Kevin Martin
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

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FCC - MAILROOM

Dear Chairman Martin:

We urge the FCC to proceed quickly to adopt the May 1st Recommended Decision of the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service. The Recommended Decision clearly acknowledges that virtually all of the growth in the Universal Service Fund is occurring in the competitive eligible telecommunications carrier (CETC) portion of the Fund.

In contrast, the incumbent portion of the Fund has been flat or even declined over the last five years. Also, since 1993, caps have limited the amount of support available to rural, independent local exchange carriers.

The Joint Board has proposed an interim cap on the CETC portion of the Fund and has committed themselves to making a recommendation on long-term, comprehensive reform within six months.

This is a very reasonable approach. Please act quickly to support the Federal-State Joint Board Recommended Decision.

Sincerely,



Kellie Thieman
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